

REGION I

Environmental Services Division
60 Westview Street, Lexington, MA 02173-3185

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 29, 1990

SUBJ: Qualifying Soil/Sediment Data with low Percent Solids

FROM: Moira Lataille/CLP-TPO
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TO: Data Validators

The RAS Inorganic and Organic SOWs may be used to analyze water and soil/sediment samples. However, what constitutes a soil/sediment sample is not addressed in either of the SOWs or the current CLP User's guide.

To maintain consistency in the validation of soil/sediment data, Region I will adhere to the definition of soil sample used by the Office of Water Regulations and Standards Industrial Technology Division.

Soil Samples--Soils, sediments and sludge samples containing more than 30% solids.(1)

Therefore, all soil data may be accepted when the percent solids are greater than 30%.

All positive results are to be approximated (J'd) when % solids are 10% or greater and less than or equal to 30%.

All positive results are to be rejected when % solids are less than 10%.

All non-detected results are to be rejected when % solids are less than or equal to 30%.

Summary

* Solids >30%

A = All results

* Solids ≤ 30% ≥ 10%

J = All positive results

R = All non-detects

* Solids < 10%

R = All results

Reference:

1. Method 1620: Metals by Inductively Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectroscopy and Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy-Draft Sept 1989.

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